

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 13982 161234Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 INSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05
EUR-12 /033 W

-----111909 161237Z /53

P R 161200Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
SECSTATE WASHDC 4593

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 13982

FOR DIDIR/INS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ABOARD SHIP OF INDIAN REGISTRY,
DAMODAR DR ALBERT BLOCK

REF BANGKOK 13172 (NOTAL), (B) BANGKOK 13660

1. UNHCR INFORMED US MAY 16 THAT AUSTRALIA HAS ACCEPTED 55
REFUGEES CURRENTLY ABOARD THE DAMODAR DR ALBERT BLOCK. THESE
55 REFUGEES INCLUDE THE 17 REFUGEES THAT FRENCH PREVIOUSLY
ACCEPTED AND THE ONE REFUGEE WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE US UNDER
CAT I. INCLUDING THE TWO REFUGEES WHO HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR
RESETTLEMENT IN HONG KONG, THERE ARE NOW 57 REFUGEES WHO HAVE
CONFIRMED THIRD COUNTRY ASSURANCES.

2. UNHCR IS CONTINUING TO PRESS FRENCH FOR FURTHER ACCEPTANCE,
AND IS TRYING TO CONVINCE FRENCH TO ACCEPT 15 ADDITIONAL REF-
UGEES WHO HAVE RELATIVES IN FRANCE.

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3. SEVEN REFUGEES HAVE CLOSE REFUGEE RELATIVES WHO ARE EITHER
CURRENTLY IN SINGAPORE WAITING FOR DEPARTURE TO US OR HAVE
RECENTLY DEPARTED SINGAPORE FOR THE US.

4. THERE ARE 12 REFUGEES WHO CURRENTLY HAVE NO THIRD COUNTRY
RESETTLEMENT PROSPECT.

5. WE ANTICIPATE MINIMAL NEED FOR APPROX 20 CE NUMBERS. THEY WOULD ACCOMMODATE THE ONCE CATEGORY I REFUGEE IF HE EXPRESSES PREFERENCE TO RESETLE IN US RATHER THAN AUSTRALIA, THE 12 WITH NO THIRD COUNTRY PROSPECTS, AND THE SEVEN WHO WHO HAVE CLOSE REFUGEE RELATIVES RECENTLY DEPARTED OR SOON GOING TO THE US FROM SINGAPORE. THAT TOTAL COULD RISE TO 35 IF THE FRENCH DECLINE TO TAKE THE 15 LISTED IN PARA 2.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. THE SHIP IS SECHEDULED DEPART MAY 18 AT THE EARLIEST, AND UNHCR MAY HAVE TO GIVE A FINAL LIST TT HE RTG MAY 17. WHILE WE WILL SETTLE FOR THE MINIMUM NUMBER POSSIBLE, REQUEST AUTHORITY TO GUARANTEE US RESETTLEMENT FOR UP TO 35 REFUGEES ABOARD THE SHIP.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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